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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: **Masahiro HATAKEYAMA et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2881**

Serial No.: **10/511,396**

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: **March 23, 2005**

Confirmation No.: **2154**

For: **SAMPLE SURFACE INSPECTION APPARATUS AND METHOD**

Attorney Docket Number: **042879**

Customer Number: **38834**

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: May 13, 2005

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Communication dated April 15, 2005.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.